

those folks in low to middle-income families so that they could make certain that they could own their own personal private health insurance and be able to make health care decisions, with families and doctors being the ones in charge, not State or Federal Government. It would allow States greater flexibility to provide health insurance for their uninsured population.

So I would encourage my colleagues to look at that. I think it is the kind of bill that folks across this Nation I think are clamoring for because it allows us to work together in a positive way and do something that benefits our constituents, does something that benefits the vast majority of Americans. One of the things that benefits the vast majority of Americans is not to have the Federal Government reach into their pockets and destroy their economic well-being.

This Federal Government, under the new leadership here, has shown a penchant for increasing the desire to have this government involved in all sorts of personal decisions, and probably the most personal of decisions is what to do with one's money. When you think about it, tax issues, taxes are, in actuality, the government, either the local or the State or the Federal Government coming into peoples' lives and saying, We know how to spend your money better than you do. We know so well how to spend your money better than you do that we are going to take it from you, because you certainly don't know exactly what you ought to be doing with your money.

This new majority, this new majority has passed all sorts of tax bills, almost at every turn. As we have talked about, Mr. Speaker, they have passed a \$392.5 billion tax increase in their budget; \$50 billion in new energy taxes; \$35 billion in new tobacco taxes; \$7.5 billion in new taxes on a farm bill. Hold on to your wallet when you go to the gas tank; a 55 cents per gallon increase in gas taxes for infrastructure and global warming studies; new taxes on homeowners by ending mortgage deductions.

Mr. Speaker, that isn't all, because Congressman RANGEL, chairman of the Ways and Means, you have got to honor him for his candor, because what he says is he is coming with the mother of all tax hikes, the mother of all tax increases, and, Mr. Speaker, this is a \$3.5 trillion proposal for a tax increase over the next 10 years, the largest individual tax increase in American history, \$3.5 trillion. Mr. Speaker, that is with a T. Only in Washington can we talk in those kind of numbers.

It is very concerting to me, I know to my constituents, and it's concerting to my colleagues who have joined me tonight to talk about the issue of taxes, the issue of money and Washington's appetite for money.

I am pleased to welcome my good friend, the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY).

Mr. MCCARTHY of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank my good friend for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, it's quite ironic, Mr. Speaker, that Mr. PRICE has this hour tonight. Tonight is Halloween. I will tell you, when I look back at home in California, my kids will be getting ready to go out with their friends. Some of them are going to dress up, some will try to scare one another. But tonight, Mr. Speaker, this is the scariest moment of all. This largest tax increase in American history is going to scare every American there is.

I will tell you that as you study history and study economics, you will see in the last cycle when taxes were lower, we set a record April 15. April 15 was the day people were paying their taxes. With taxes lower, more revenue came into American coffers, government, than ever before in the history of collecting taxes. Why? Because you let people keep more of what they earn. They went out and took their money and invested into capital, invested into businesses. What does this plan do that the Democrats put forward in the Democrat's largest tax increase? It taxes small business, small business at the highest rate. How do you create a big business? I guess you can't under the Democratic plan.

For those that are sitting at home, Mr. Speaker, I want them to think for one moment when you think about taxes, because you always don't realize how much taxes you pay in a day. On an average day, you wake up, you take a shower; do you realize you pay a tax on that water? You go maybe over to Starbucks to get a cup of coffee, you pay a tax on that coffee. You stop off and fill your car up with gas; you pay a gasoline tax. You go into work, and for the first three hours you're just paying taxes before you make any money. You go home, turn on the TV, hopefully you will see yourself on television, you pay cable tax if you're watching this show tonight.

You go out tomorrow, a lot of us are going to fly home, and when we buy that airplane ticket, we're going to pay an airport tax. You rent a car, you pay a rental tax. Somebody stays in a hotel, they pay an occupancy tax. God forbid, you save enough money and unfortunately die, you're going to pay an inheritance tax. On the Democratic plan, it goes to 55 percent.

They think they know what to do with your money. I believe the Republicans know what to do with your money. You keep your money and invest it and build America. The plan has shown that if government continues to grow, they are going to raise your taxes further.

Mr. Speaker, this plan and the appropriations that have gone through on this floor have continued to make government grow, continued to increase. How do they want to feed it? By taking more of what you have.

I want to yield to my good friend from Georgia and thank him for the time that he has put into this, because it is a Truth Squad. It's rather ironic that tonight you're talking about how

the Democrats have scared the rest of America. It is scary because they plan to move forward with their plan.

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. I thank my friend from California for outlining what truly is a frightening issue for many Americans. Many folks, especially in the middle class, there has been talk about a war on the middle class. I tell you, Mr. Speaker, the war on the middle class is being fully engaged by this majority party when you think about a \$3.5 trillion tax increase.

Congressman RANGEL, again, you have to honor him and commend him for his candor and his honesty. He says, well, look, 90 million Americans will have a tax decrease with his proposal. What that means, Mr. Speaker, is that over 200 million Americans will have their taxes increased. That is where this \$3.5 trillion comes from. It comes from anybody who is paying taxes currently to any degree will have their taxes increased. My friend from California outlined so many different ways that we are taxed and taxed and taxed by folks who think they know how to spend our money better. I believe I know that most folks on our side of the aisle believe that individuals know how to spend that money better. I recognize my good friend from Ohio, who believes that sincerely and has great knowledge and acumen about the issue of taxes and financial issues, my good friend, Mr. JORDAN from Ohio.

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for putting this hour together. I thank my friend from California too for his focus on keeping taxes low, which the gentleman from Georgia made the right point: Whose money is it? Does it belong to the families of this country or does it belong to government?

The families of America know that they can spend their money better than government. They can invest it in their kids, their grandkids, their goals, their dreams, their ideas, their principles. They can do it better than government can. American families know that taxes are too high. Think about the typical family, the typical family in this country. When you factor in local, State and Federal taxes, all those taxes that my friend from California went through that you pay in just a typical day, when you factor that in, the typical American family spends 50 percent of their income, 50 percent of what they make, what they bring in, that they can invest in their kids, their grandkids, their future, they have to give to some level of government.

As the gentleman from Georgia pointed out, when you think about what has happened this year in this Congress, we had a budget bill passed that doesn't extend the 2001 and 2003 tax cuts that have helped our economy, that have helped families have a growing economy, the tax increases in there that result in huge, huge taxes in the future on American families. We had an energy bill that raises taxes on domestic energy companies. We had a